Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 OMB-01 AID-05 /129 W

-----260451Z 047134 /17

R 260007Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3760

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

UNCLAS USUN 1664

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, UNSC, LT

SUBJ: SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON LESOTHO COMPLAINT

REF: (A) USUN 1641; (B) STATE 119941

1. SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED RESOLUTION ON LESOTHO COMPLAINT BY CONSENSUS ON MAY 25. ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS (EXCEPT LIBYA, WHICH SPOKE ON MAY 24) SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF LESOTHO (DETAILS UNCLASSIFIED

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SEPTEL). LESOTHO FONMIN MOLAPO EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE TO SYG WALDHEIM AND THE COUNCIL.

2. TEXT OF US STATEMENT, DELIVERED BY AMBASSADOR LEONARD, FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: BEGIN TEXT.

MR. PRESIDENT, WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME TO THIS COUNCIL DEBATE THE DISTINGUISHED FOREIGN MINISTER OF LESOTHO, HIS EXCELLENCY CHARLES MOLAPO. HIS PRESENCE HERE AND THE CLEAR AND DEEPLY-FELT STATEMENT WHICH HE DELIVERED YESTERDAY HAVE BEEN VERY HELPFUL TO THE COUNCIL IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM.

MR. PRESIDENT, THE UNITED STATES WILL JOIN THE CONSENSUS ON THIS RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LESOTHO SINCE MY GOVERNMENT SHARES THE CONCERN OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AT THE PRESSURES TO WHICH LESOTHO IS SUBJECT, AND IT IS OUR FIRMLY HELD CONVICTION THAT THE POLICIES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, OUT OF WHICH THIS SITUATION ARISES, ARE WRONG. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL CHANGE MUST COME IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

WE EXPRESS OUR ADMIRATION FOR THE EFFORTS OF THE MISSION TO LESOTHO AND ITS EXCELLENT REPORT ON THE NEED FOR ASSISTANCE TO THAT COUNTRY. THE REPORT WE BELIEVE BRINGS OUT WITH COMMENDABLE CLARITY THE PARTICULARLY PROBLEMS LESOTHO FACES AS A SMALL, NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATE LOCATED IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE STRUGGLE DURING THIS DIFFICULT STAGE IN THE HISTORY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE ALSO NOTE WITH APPROVAL THE LETTER OF APRIL 18 FROM SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM CALLING ON MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO RENDER AID TO LESOTHO.

AS A RESULT OF OUR OWN STUDY ON THE SITUATION IN UNCLASSIFIED

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LESOTHO, WE TOO HAVE CONCLUDED THAT ASSISTANCE IS INDEED NECESSARY. CONSEQUENTLY, MY GOVERNMENT IS TAKING STEPS, SUBJECT TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL PROCESS, TO MAKE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO LESOTHO. MY GOVERNMENT URGES OTHER NATIONS TO VIEW CONDITIONS IN LESOTHO WITH COMPASSION AND TO JOIN IN RENDERING APPROPRIATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

END TEXT. UNQUOTE. LEONARD

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

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